

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 1-27 were pending. Claims 1-7, 9-10, 12-15, 17-18, 20-23, and 25-26 were rejected. Claims 8, 11, 16, 19, 24, and 27 were allowed.

In this response, claims 1-4, 12, 20, and 25 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 5-6, 9, 13-14, 17, and 21-22 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Specifically, claims 5-6, 9, 13-14, 17, and 21-22 have been amended to depend from one of the allowable independent claims 8, 11, 16, 19, 24, and 27, thereby leaving all allowable claims. While Applicant does not concede that the Examiner's position is correct on the merits, Applicant has sought to obtain the claims which were allowed.

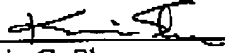
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

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